

jobs and the economy. I'm proud of the work that Congress has done to bolster the economy and create new jobs across our country. In Ohio, we continue to see new funds awarded and released every week. Communities across the State and my district have been positively impacted by these funds. To date, over \$225 million of recovery funds have been announced to counties I represent along the Ohio River, ranging from improvements in technology investments to education funding, substantial things for our future.

Just last week, \$75 million in recovery money was announced in Ohio. These funds include \$8.6 million for water projects in 10 of my 12 counties. That investment represents jobs for our workers and clean water for our residents. I'm proud to work for the results that these investments have accomplished. With more than half the money to be spent, I look forward to more of these improvements throughout the State of Ohio as we put America back to work.

HONORING MIAMI-DADE POLICE DIRECTOR ROBERT PARKER

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. I rise today to extend my sincere thanks to a distinguished south Floridian and a faithful public servant, Miami-Dade Police Director Robert "Bobby" Parker. After 33 years of serving our community, it is truly with great sadness that we see such a fine and dedicated police officer retiring.

In 2004, Bobby's long and successful career with the Miami-Dade Police Department culminated in the directorship of the department. Under his leadership, the department saw the implementation of unique and cutting-edge programs such as the Mortgage Fraud Task Force and the Gun Bounty Program. Bobby's foresight and hard work have consistently had a profound and positive impact on all of south Florida. He has always made his greatest efforts for the benefit of others and will be greatly missed by both the department and our community.

It is with pleasure that I join Bobby's family, friends, and peers as they honor the many accomplishments of his outstanding career. Bobby's lasting legacy will certainly be inspiring to countless officers to match his selflessness and performance.

I thank my good friend, Miami-Dade Police Director Bobby Parker, for all that he has done for our community in south Florida, and I truly wish him all the best in his years to come.

BRINGING A STRONG JOBS BILL

(Mr. ALTMIRE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. ALTMIRE. Madam Speaker, since our economy bottomed out in

late winter and Democrats took bold and decisive action, the stock market has risen 4,000 points and America experienced its first positive GDP growth in 15 months. But more can be done and more must be done.

So as we recover from one of the most severe recessions in our Nation's history, Democrats will focus on helping Americans on Main Street, not Wall Street. We will build upon the momentum we have created for positive growth in our economy and bring to the House floor strong legislation to create jobs. American families are depending on their leaders to focus their attention on job creation and make the difficult decisions necessary to curb employment and begin growing our job force once again. Americans expect nothing less, and House Democrats are committed to bringing to the floor a strong jobs bill and work to turn around our Nation's economy.

HONORING KEVIN LEE MITCHEM OF MATHEWS COUNTY, VIRGINIA

(Mr. WITTMAN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WITTMAN. I rise today to pay tribute to Kevin Lee Mitchem. Kevin Mitchem was a proud Mathews County resident and a fervent supporter of public education, and he was committed to lending his time and knowledge to youth in the community. Kevin was a devoted husband to his beloved wife, Sara, and a dedicated father to their two children, Rachel and Daniel. As the owner of Mitchem Seafood, Kevin was a staunch supporter of watermen and the seafood industry.

At the time of his passing, Kevin Mitchem was the chairman of the Mathews County Board of Supervisors, and prior to the chairmanship he served for 12 years as a board member. Additionally, he served on the Middle Peninsula Planning District Commission.

Kevin was deeply involved in his community and dedicated much of his time and effort to serve the residents of Mathews County. Kevin Lee Mitchem was a true friend to all who knew him and will be greatly missed. He touched many people's lives and the work that he did for his community will never be forgotten. My thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends.

JOBS SUMMIT

(Mr. BACA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BACA. Recently, a single parent in my district called my office for help. He lost his good-paying job and the health benefits that went with it. Sadly, he is not alone in this problem. More Americans than ever before are losing their jobs, their livelihood, and their homes. In California, the unemployment rate is 12 percent. In my area, the Inland Empire, unemploy-

ment is a staggering 14 percent. We continue to have one of the highest rates of foreclosure in the Nation. The hardworking men and women in my district and throughout the Nation deserve a good-paying job; quality, affordable health care; enough food to put on the table; and a good quality of life.

I commend President Obama for hosting a jobs forum. We need to create jobs so that people can put food on the table and keep their homes and live the American Dream. Instead of pointing fingers and calling names, this is a time when we all need to be working together to find real solutions in creating jobs for the American people right here in the United States and not outsourcing those jobs outside of here.

For my part, I will host a jobs summit to hear from the private industry, nonprofit organizations, and labor organization and educators.

DISPELLING HEALTH CARE MISINFORMATION

(Mr. GOHMERT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. GOHMERT. I need to dispel some of the misinformation that's been put out about the health care bill that we passed in this House. For one thing, some have said, Well, States require you to have insurance on your car, so of course we can mandate that people buy health insurance. The bill we passed is not going to provide health insurance. It's going to mandate—it does mandate—that you buy it, and if you don't, if you're above the poverty line, it won't be provided. In fact, you have an extra income tax if you don't buy the Cadillac insurance the government mandates.

If you want to know about the comparison, first of all, to States requiring car insurance, not one single State in the country requires that a car—your own car—be insured. They require that you buy insurance to ensure against hurting another car or damaging another car. This is a whole different thing. We're mandating that you buy insurance on your own car, your own vehicle, your own body. And that's not constitutional.

WIDER WAR NOT A PATH TO PEACE AND SECURITY

(Mr. DOGGETT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DOGGETT. Madam Speaker, I agree with so much of what President Obama said last night, but not so much what he would do. The path to peace and security will not be found through a wider war. Troop escalation by 40 percent, then de-escalation, all within 18 months, is totally unrealistic. We have been fighting in Afghanistan on the installment plan: a few more troops, a few more months, and many more billions. 2011 will not mark the